MEMORANDUM

To:

4216 S. Charleston

From:

J. Randall Lyman

Subject:

Groundwater Contamination

Date:

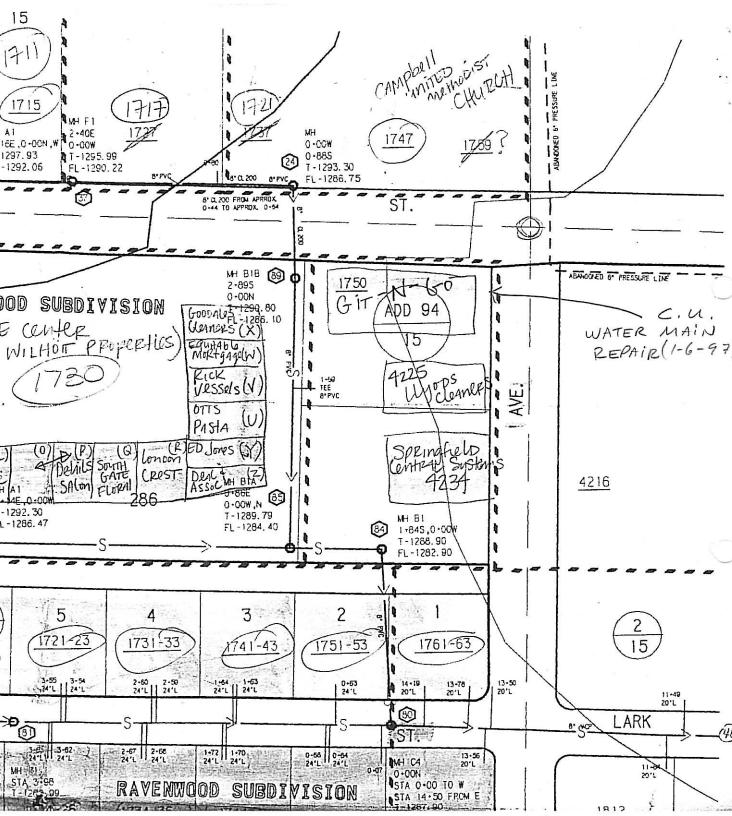
January 7, 1997

CC:

Gene Pabst, Bob Schaefer, Chas. Collins(MDNR)

I received a call from Dave Fraley of City Utilities at home last night at 6:15 p.m. He indicated that they apparently had a large water main leaking at the southwest corner of Republic Road and Charleston, by the Git-N-Go. The water was apparently surfacing over at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church property east of Charleston at the 4216 address. This church has been having gasoline odors in their underground heating ducts. They are not tributary to our sewer system. We were contacted by the pastor of the church before the holidays and checked out our sewers in the area and found no problem in our sewer lines at that time. There have been articles in the newspaper in the last week regarding the contamination.

Dave Fraley was somewhat concerned about water that could be discharged from dewatering their excavation to make the water line repair. I went to the office and got copies of our sewer maps. I told Fraley that if their was not a lot of gasoline odors or visible contamination that we could try to get the excavation water to a sanitary sewer if it was close enough. As it turns out the break was quite a distance from the closest sanitary sewer manhole and it was not really practical to pump to the sanitary sewer. Dave asked if it was ok to pump to the storm drainage system that was tributary to Seiger's pond and Thompson Branch. I told him that we have no actual authority over the storm sewers but that it was probably his only option. I observed the repair performed by C.U. for over an hour. The water had no characteristic odor of gasoline and no contamination was observed, but was a fairly muddy. I followed the flow east on Republic and by the time it got 300 yards east in the grass covered ditch, the water was clear and continued to have no odor. An icing problem arose on the street at the intersection, but C.U. called the service center and they brought out a pickup with a salt spreader and salted the intersection for them. I don't think the discharge from this repair had any adverse effects on downstream water bodies. Also, I checked our sewer in the area for gasoline odors and found none. I did observe a lot of surfacing water kind of surrounding the west end of the church, which sets in a 'hole'. The water appeared to be frozen for the most part. I faxed a copy of this informal memo to Chas. Collins at MDNR on 1-7-97..



"216 S. CHARLESTON

SBJ Staff

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Teledyne denied

the allegations

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allegations of fraud in government contracts. With the settlement, U.S. District Judge Russe"-G. Clark Dec. 20 dismissed Il lawsuit filed May 7, 1996,

by the Department of Justice. In the settlement, Teledyne against it. Teledyne sold its Neosho division to Saberliner Corp. in 1992.

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> payments to Woodward and the government within five days of the judge's order.

> > think

(Woodward) believes that this was a small price for Teledyne to pay, and there was a lot more going on," said Bill McDonald, Woodward's lawyer. "It is probably a good settlement under the Continued on page 8



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by Barbara Radford-Kapp **SBJ** Contributing Writer

Ozark Ideas is a closet inventor's dream. Jed Forrester's company takes client's ideas

from proposal to product and then markets the widget to the masses. When Forrester started Ozark Ideas last January, he Continued on page 7

One step remains to begin competition in the Springfield area

by Paul Flemming SBJ Staff

Two down, one to go and another first-to-arrive milestone for Dial US.

The final element for a competitive Springfield local telephone market may come before 1997 dawns.

Missouri's Public Service Commission Dec. 20 granted Dial US a certificate to provide basic local telephone service in the state. It is the first such certification given by the commission to a company proposing to offer service in competition with an existing local phone compa-

"Local competition is coming to Springfield," said Karl Zobrist, chairman of the commission.

Jim Hedges, owner and president of Dial US, said his company will begin testing of service Continued on page 8

Mercantile plans to acquire Roosevelt Financial

A proposed merger further consolidates the local market

Mercantile Bancorporation Inc. announced Dec. 23 its intention to acquire Roosevelt Financial Group Inc. for about \$1.072 billion.

Terms of the definitive agreement call for Roosevelt shareholders to receive 0.4211 shares of Mercantile common stock, or \$22 in cash, for each Roosevelt share. Mercantile officials also

announced a plan in conjunction with the merger to repurchase up to 7 million of its own shares.

"Our shareholders will benefit from the powerful market position and complementary products of the Mercantile which emerges from these combinaen, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Mercantile. "In addition, customers will benefit from a highly competitive, convenient and exciting alternative for banking ser-Continued on page 8

tions," said Thomas H. Jacobs-

Environment

Git-N-Go seeks contamination source

—Janet Hicks

Health Department

by Eddie Bass **SBJ Contributing Editor**

Environmental authorities are seeking the source of petroleum products which apparently have contaminated underground water supplies in the area of Republic Road and Charleston.

Fumes in parts of the Cumberland Présbyterian Church a cou-

ple of weeks ago forced members to move some services to other parts of the building, according to the Rev. Charles Alexander, pastor.

The mystery began April 8 when the Springfield/ Greene County Health Department received a re-

quest from Palmerton & Parrish "... we don't test Inc., consulting engineers, to test water from a spring east of the spring water that isn't church. used for drinking.'

"Normally we don't test spring water that isn't used for drinking," said Janet Hicks, supervisor of the health department's

county environmental section. "But we cleared it with other agencies and pulled a sample from the Continued on page 7



Fumes in the basement of Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 4216 S. Charleston Ave., prompted Greene County and Missouri officials to seek a possible petroleum leak.

ne first has to find out if that item has already been invented. Then, if an identical idea doesn't exist, Forrester submits detailed plans of the invention and applies for a patent.

"It can take anywhere from six months to a year and a half to get a patent, but as long as you have applied for one, you can go ahead and manufacture the product," Forrester said.

Ozark Ideas works with a designer, Guy Gilbert, owner of Gilbert Mold and Die in Harrison, Ark., to develop a prototype. The plans and prototype are then taken to a manufacturer and production begins. Forrester said he tries to find the easiest and cheapest way to produce a client's duct.

"A lot of times, and people don't realize this, they don't have to spend tens of thousands of dollars to get a product to market," Forrester said. He puts together a package for his client that offers a percentage of the profits to the designer and manufacturer so there is not a lot of money spent out of pocket.

"Unless you've got a lot of money to burn, that's better than spending \$25,000 to \$50,000 to get a product to market, and then maybe sell only 500 pieces," he added. Jed Forrester, owner, and Beverly Elliot, marketing director, help Ozark Ideas clients get an idea for a product manufactured, publicized and distributed.

Forrester arranged a similar package for the inventor of the Shop-n-Lok, Gloria Pittsenbarger. Pittsenbarger came to Ozark Ideas several months ago with an idea for a locking device that locks women's purses to a shopping cart or a baby stroller to keep them from being stolen.

The device would come in handy in almost any situation that required locking items together.

Forrester helped her get a patent, and the Shop-n-Lok is now in production. In fact, Forrester's Nixa office is full of them.

As Forrester and his marketing director, Beverly Elliott, gear up to sell the Shopn-Lok, they are busily packaging each one for distribution. "We don't want to make the product so costly that no matter how good an idea it is, people won't be able to buy it," Forrester said.

So, for now, providing all the labor for

every stage of the product development keeps overhead down. The Shop-n-Lok will sell for \$12.95 retail. Forrester said that, as the product catches on, he will turn packaging over to someone else. He's already talked to Christian County Enterprises about doing just that.

'People don't realize this, they don't have to spend tens of thousands of dollars to get a product to market.'

—Jed Forrester Ozark Ideas Forrester plans to take the Shop-n-Lok to QVC network, which has already shown interest in the product. Pittsenbarger is also working with a buyer from Wal-Mart. If those two venues work out, that will

be the maximum demand the company can meet right now. "It's pretty mind boggling to think about how many units could be sold in one year," he said.

Also during its first year in business, Ozark Ideas has introduced the Finger-Saver, a device that fits inside a door jamb and prevents a smashed or even severed finger. Forrester displayed his product at the KY3 Family Fair, and during those two days, a number of people said they had lost a finger in a door accident. Forrester is now working on a prototype for an industrial-sized FingerSaver for schools, nursing homes and hospitals. At \$9.95, it is affordable peace of mind for parents of small children.

Also on the drawing board is a safety device for vehicles that would alert the driver that an emergency vehicle is approaching. In Forrester's experience, emergency vehicles get within 100 to 50 feet before a driver hears them. Ozarks Ideas' device would work on a frequency and go off like a beeper when an ambulance or fire truck is in the area. Forrester's designers are looking for the right computer chip to complete the prototype, and then that product goes off to market.

In the coming months, besides launching the Shop-n-Lok, Forrester would like to interest more people in what his company is doing. "Everybody has at least one good idea. If they could get that idea to the public, they could make money," he said. Customers will find a complete catalog of Ozark Ideas' products on the Internet at http://www.bransonconnection.com.

Fumes baffle church members

Continued from page 1 spring on April II."

Hicks said they found the water to be contaminated with "fecal coli and nitrates."

"Also, the water had a strong odor of some petroleum product, such as diesel or gasoline," she said.

The health department sent a report on the sample and the tests it had run to the Department of Natural Resources.

Charles Collins, environmental specialist for the DNR, said his agency contacted Git-N-Go, which has a store across the street from the church.

"We heard about the problem from the health department several months ago, but we contacted Git-N-Go a couple of weeks ago when the church had problems with fumes in their building," Collins said.

Collins said the fumes were evident in the church following a period of rain, which causes him to think the contaminated water table in the area was raised enough to come in contact with some of the duct work in the church heating and air conditioning system.

Collins said he asked Git-N-Go management to draw up a program of work to try to find the source of the contamination

"So far, Git-N-Go has found nothing," Collins said.

Mike Hyde, district manager for Git-N-Go, said his company keeps meticulous records on the amount of fuel pumped into its tanks and the amount pumped out.

"Our records don't indicate that we've had a leak," Hyde said. "The only thing I can figure is that we might have had some spillage when the tanks were filled or possibly when automobile tanks were filled."

Hyde said he has ordered test borings

to be made at various points on the Git-N-Go property in an effort to determine the source of the contamination.

The Git-N-Go store was built in 1987, Hyde said, about a dozen years after the church across the street was built.

The Git-N-Go store is the only place along Republic Road for several blocks where petroleum products are sold.

"Many years ago, there used to be a filling station up on the hill east of us," Hyde said. "But that was a long way off."

4216 S. CHARLESTON

SERVING SOUTHWEST MISSOURI Number 25

\$1.00



FOCUS:

Business Basics, a look back at the year's best 'How To ... ' articles

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GTE filed suit against Missouri regulators, disputing their recent ruling

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Litigation...

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Business Spotlight

Ozark Ideas brings products to market



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